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94. Proposed v L. C. WALKER, A. M., Petaluma High School. Petaluma, Cal.

Show that the area of a rational triangle cannot be a square number.

Solution by G. B. M. ZERR, A.M., Ph. D., Professor of Chemistry and Physics, The Temple College, Philadelphia, Pa.

Let  $a^2+b^2$ ,  $a^2+c^2$ ,  $b^2+c^2$  be the sides.

... Area =  $abc_1/(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)$ .

Let  $a=m^2+mn$ ,  $b=mn+n^2$ , c=mn.

... Area =  $mn(m^2 + mn)(n^2 + mn)(m^2 + n^2 + mn)$ .

Let n=1. ... Area= $m^2(m+1)^2(m^2+m+1)$ .

For integral values of m,  $m^2 + m + 1$  is not a square.

Let 9p, 10p, 17p be the sides. Then area= $36p^2$ .

Let 3p, 25p, 26p be the sides. Then area= $36p^2$ .

This gives two series of triangles whose areas are square numbers, thus proving that the proposition is not true.

95. Proposed by F. P. MATZ, Sc. D., Ph. D., Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy in Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio.

There are two unequal square numbers the sum of whose sum, difference, product, and quotient, is a square. Find the two numbers.

This is problem 91, so numbered by mistake. Its solution is in the April number, page 113. Ed.

## AVERAGE AND PROBABILITY.

## 115. Proposed by L. C. WALKER, A. M., Petaluma High School, Petaluma, Cal.

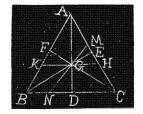
Three points are at random within a given triangle. Find the chance that they will all lie on one side of some one line that can be drawn through the center of gravity of the triangle.

Solution by G. B. M. ZERR, A. M., Ph. D., The Temple College, Philadelphia, Pa., and J. R. HITT, Coronal Institute, San Marcos, Tex.

Project the given triangle into an equilateral triangle, side = a; let G be the center of gravity, CH or CM=x.

Then 
$$BK = \frac{a(a-2x)}{2a-3x}$$
,  $AK = \frac{a(a-x)}{2a-3x}$ ,  $AH = a-x$ .

Area 
$$AKH = \frac{\triangle (a-x)^2}{a(2a-3x)}$$
,  $BN = \frac{2ax-a^2}{3x-a}$ ,  $CN = \frac{ax}{3x-a}$ .



Area 
$$\mathit{CMN} = \frac{\triangle x^2}{a(3x-a)}$$
, area  $\mathit{ABNM} = \triangle \left[1 - \frac{x^2}{a(3x-a)}\right]$ .

$$p = \left[ \int_{0}^{\frac{1}{2}a} \frac{(AKH)^{3} dx}{\Delta^{3}} + \int_{\frac{1}{2}a}^{a} \frac{(ABNM)^{3} dx}{\Delta^{3}} \right] / \int_{0}^{\frac{1}{2}a} dx$$

$$= \frac{2}{a} \int_{\frac{1}{2}a}^{a} \left[ 1 - \frac{x^{2}}{a(3x-a)} \right]^{3} dx + \frac{2}{a^{4}} \int_{0}^{\frac{1}{2}a} \frac{(a-x)^{3} dx}{(2a-3x)^{3}}$$

$$= \frac{2}{a} \int_{\frac{1}{2}a}^{a} \left[ 1 - \frac{x^{2}}{a(3x-a)} \right]^{3} dx + \frac{2}{a^{4}} \int_{\frac{1}{2}a}^{a} \frac{x^{6} dx}{(3x-a)^{3}}$$

$$= \frac{2}{a} \int_{\frac{1}{2}a}^{a} dx - \frac{6}{a^{2}} \int_{\frac{1}{2}a}^{a} \frac{x^{2} dx}{3x-a} + \frac{6}{a^{3}} \int_{\frac{1}{2}a}^{a} \frac{x^{4} dx}{(3x-a)^{2}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} (\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} - \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} \log 2).$$

## 116. Proposed by the late ENOCH BEERY SEITZ.

The average area of the quadrilateral formed by joining four random points on the surface of a circle, radius a, is  $4a^2/3\pi$ .

Solution by G. B. M. ZERR, A.M., Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry and Physics. The Temple College, Philadelphia, Pa.

Let a=radius of given circle, A=its area,  $\triangle =$ required average,  $\triangle' =$ the average area when the four points are taken on both the circle A and a concentric annulus B,  $\triangle_1$  =the average area when three points are taken on A and one on B.

Then 
$$(\triangle' - \triangle)A = 4B(\triangle_1 - \triangle)$$
.  
But  $\triangle : \triangle' = A : A + B$ .  
 $\therefore \triangle' = \frac{(A+B)\triangle}{4}$ .  $\therefore \triangle = \frac{4}{5}\triangle_1$ .

Let one point O be on the circumference of the circle, and the other points P, Q, R anywhere on its surface. Let OP = x, OR = y, OQ